



## Therese Evelyn Robinson

October 6, 1926 - April 21, 2020

Therese Evelyn (Barrett) Robinson, age 93, of Albia, passed away on Tuesday, April 21, 2020, under the care of EveryStep Hospice at the Monroe County Hospital in Albia.

Therese was born on October 6, 1926, in Chicago, IL, to Maurice and Isabel (Gorman) Barrett. She had three brothers, Maurice Jr., John, and James and one sister, Alice Goeppner. The Barrett's made national news, including Life Magazine, by being the first family to have 5 children born by caesarean section.

While attending Mercy High School in Chicago, Therese also worked at a shoe store and after high school worked for the Gas Company in Chicago. On October 20, 1945, she married Robert L. Robinson at St. Columbanus Church in Chicago. Bob joined the Navy in 1939, served overseas during WW2 and Therese became a Navy wife, living in Gages Lake, IL, Charleston, SC, Panama Canal Zone, and San Diego, CA until Bob retired from the Navy with 20 years of service. Therese and Bob then purchased the Robinson Family Farm east of Lovilia, where they farmed together while raising their 8 children. Bob also worked as a Lab Technician at the VA Hospital and Therese worked as a teachers aid, first in Lovilia and then at Kendall School in Albia. When her husband's health was failing, they moved to their home in Albia. Therese and Bob shared 45 years of marriage prior to his passing on November 27, 1990.

Therese loved music of all kinds but especially Big Band Music. In fact, Therese and Bob's first date was dancing at the Trinanon Ballroom in Chicago to the Lawrence Welk Orchestra. They danced to all the Big Band of that Era, including Glenn Miller, one of her favorites. They also loved dancing at the St. Peter's Hall in Lovilia. She loved to host large gatherings of family and friends, totally enjoying her loud, rambunctious family!

Therese was a playground teacher at Kendall School and often she would have former students remark how they loved when she pushed them on the swings, doing "under dogs", or some remembered her making them stand against the wall for some infraction. Her own children knew her tough, no nonsense approach and knew they had better heed her warnings or pay the consequence.

Therese was a very good cook and one of her most popular meals was homemade spaghetti sauce with homemade bread, followed by homemade pie made from fruits that she had picked and frozen herself. She was very nurturing. A favorite memory of her children's is getting off the school bus when it had snowed and they had to walk down a long lane and she would have hot cocoa waiting for them. This nurturing and concern was still evident even in her last days in the hospital. She spoke to those with her that she wanted them all to "find a bed and go to sleep"...she said, "I want you to be safe & warm."

Therese is survived by her 8 children, Gary Robinson of Knoxville, IA, Mary (Dick) Barnard of Oskaloosa, IA, Karen (Jerry) Fontinel of Albia, IA, Ray (Nenette) Robinson of Colorado Springs, CO, Carl Robinson (Pam Blommer) of Waterloo, IA, Linda (Doug) Yates of El Dorado, KS, Mark (Amy) Robinson of Albia, IA, and Janet (Nick) Billings of Albia, IA; 14 grandchildren; 8 great grandchildren; 2 great-great grandchildren; and a sister-in-law, Carolyn Barrett

of Santa Barbara, CA. Therese is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Due to the current State of Public Health Disaster Emergency and the COVID-19 pandemic, no visitation is planned at this time. A private family funeral service will be held on Friday, April 24, 2020 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Albia, with Father Mark Yates, C.P.P.S. officiating. Burial will follow services at St. Peter's Cemetery in Lovilia, IA.

An open memorial has been established to be determined at a later date. Memorials or cards of condolences can be directed to Karen Fontinel at 22 G Ave. West, Albia, IA 52531.

## Cemetery Details

### St. Peter's Catholic Cemeteey

Lovilia, IA

## Previous Events

### Funeral Service

APR **24**. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
730 Benton Ave W  
Albia, IA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Therese Evelyn Robinson*

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ *Therese Evelyn Robinson*

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ *Mrs. Robinson was my favorite recess teacher. I swear she whistled at me every recess!! I was also sent to stand against the wall many times. Ole Kendall Elementary School. God bless her and those mourning her*❤️

**Susan Leshen** - April 25, 2020 at 06:08 PM



“ *Mary, Mark, Janet and other siblings....your mother was a fixture in Albia and she will be missed! I remember her on the playground at Kendall playing four squares and tetherball with us. Mary....you remind me so much of her. Tough, but with a great sense of humor! You all had a wonderful mom. I was blessed to know her.*  
*Robyn Barrickman*

**Robyn Barrickman** - April 24, 2020 at 11:33 AM



*Thank you so much for the kind words, Robyn. So many stopped her to remind her that she worked at their school, some even remind her about being put up against the fence for an “infraction”. They all loved it, and her.*

**Mary Barnard** - April 24, 2020 at 06:55 PM

PH

“ We are just hearing of Thereses passing so to all the Robinson family we send our condolences. Thinking of you this am as you gather for family service. Over the years I enjoyed being part of her health care...she would keep me up to date on my classmate Mary. Therese was always a pleasure to visit with. May she RIP.

*Tom & Patty Hannam*

Patty & Tom Hannam - April 24, 2020 at 10:31 AM

MB

*Patty, she always talked about you as well. She just loved being around, and in touch, with so many people. It is amazing how many people knew my mom.*

Mary Barnard - April 24, 2020 at 06:57 PM

RD

“ Robinson family, Your mom was a wonderful lady. She was no nonsense and fun wrapped up in one! My thoughts and prayers are with each of you. Hugs!



Ruth Deyo - April 23, 2020 at 04:44 PM



“ I pray for God's speed to Therese and that her family is flooded with all of the wonderful memories she leaves to them. R.I.P. Sweet Lady

Darwin Thomas - April 23, 2020 at 03:55 PM



“ *Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Therese Evelyn Robinson.*



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April 23, 2020 at 12:06 PM



“ *Tom & Laura Riley purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Therese Evelyn Robinson.*



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**Tom & Laura Riley** - April 23, 2020 at 10:39 AM



“ *I remember when my mother used to make me watch her favorite soap opera "Another World". I had to tell her what had happened on the episode she missed. I dreaded watching that show because I wanted to be outside playing. Now I would gladly watch the show, but it is no longer on TV. Love you Mom, Linda*

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**Linda Sue Yates** - April 23, 2020 at 08:58 AM



*LOL Linda. I can totally see Mom doing that.*

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**Mary Barnard** - April 24, 2020 at 06:59 PM

KK

“ Sending my deepest sympathies to the entire family. Linda was a fellow classmate of mine whom I absolutely adore and I can hear her infectious laugh right now, and Janet, I know you from Cindy’s Beauty Hut when I would take my mom in to get her hair done. Sending my love and prayers to you all. What a legacy your mom has left behind. She was a wonderful lady.  
Sincerely,  
Kathy Fisher-Kellogg

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**kathy kellogg** - April 23, 2020 at 12:10 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Therese Evelyn Robinson.



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April 22, 2020 at 09:42 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Therese Evelyn Robinson.



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April 22, 2020 at 09:05 PM

EO

“ My deepest sympathies to you dear Janet Nick and your families on the loss of your dear mother- May god give you the strength to bear your loss bravely- May she Rest In Peace.

*Elaine Ondaatje*

*A*

*Canberra Australia*

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**Elaine Ondaatje** - April 22, 2020 at 08:20 PM

DB

“ *Laura, Daniel and I had ice cream in your honor last night, Grandma. It was the best way we could think to honor your life, legacy, and memory. I love you and am so thankful to have had you for 39+ years. Rest in Peace*

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**Denise Barnard** - April 22, 2020 at 03:55 PM